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Forty-ninth session
SECOND COMMITTEE

ALLOCATION OF ITEMS TO THE SECOND COMMITTEE

Letter dated 26 September 1994 from the Chairman of the Fifth Committee to the Chairman of the Second Committee

You may recall that at its 3rd plenary meeting, on 23 September 1994, the General Assembly decided to allocate agenda item 108 (Programme planning) to the Fifth Committee. It should be understood that each programme of the proposed revisions to the medium-term plan for the period 1992-1997, as in the past, would be submitted to the Assembly in plenary meeting and to the Main Committees for review as far as they are concerned.

In its conclusions and recommendations on the proposed revisions to the medium-term plan, the Committee for Programme and Coordination noted that a number of proposed revisions had not been presented to the relevant sectoral and/or functional bodies concerned. It stressed the need for all proposed revisions to be submitted to the relevant Main Committees of the General Assembly. In that connection, it invited the Chairmen of the Main Committees to ensure that their programme of work was organized in such a manner as to facilitate their consideration of the proposed revisions prior to the consideration of the item by the Fifth Committee.

I wish to inform you that the Fifth Committee intends to begin its consideration of the item on programme planning on 31 October.

I should therefore be grateful if you would bring this issue to the attention of your Committee and arrange that the views of your Committee on the proposed revisions to the relevant programmes of the medium-term plan for the period 1992-1997 are communicated to me soonest.

(Signed) Adrien TEIRLINCK
Chairman
Fifth Committee
of the General Assembly

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Agenda item 12

REPORT OF THE ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL

Modalities of reporting in the economic, social and related fields

Note by the Secretariat

1. In its decision 1994/304 of 29 July 1994, the Economic and Social Council decided to transmit the draft resolution entitled "Modalities of reporting in the economic, social and related fields" (E/1994/L.41) and the report of the Secretary-General (E/1994/88) on the subject to the General Assembly at its forty-ninth session for further consideration by the Second Committee.

2. Both documents will be made available to the Second Committee for its consideration of the subject under agenda item 12.

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REPORT OF THE ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL

Recommendations contained in the report of the Committee for Development Planning

Note by the Secretariat

1. In its decision 1994/225 of 14 July 1994, the Economic and Social Council took note of the report of the Committee for Development Planning 1/ and decided to transmit the recommendations contained in chapter V, section B, of the report to the General Assembly at its forty-ninth session for approval.

2. The report will be made available to the Second Committee for its consideration of the subject under agenda item 12.

1/ Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 1994, Supplement No. 2 (E/1994/22).

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ALLOCATION OF ITEMS TO THE SECOND COMMITTEE

Letter dated 10 October 1994 from the President of the General Assembly to the Chairman of the Second Committee

I have the honour to enclose, for any appropriate action by your Committee before 31 October, a letter dated 10 October, addressed to you by the Chairman of the Fifth Committee regarding agenda item 105 entitled, "Review of the efficiency of the administrative and financial functioning of the United Nations" (see annex).

(Signed) Amara ESSY

Annex

LETTER DATED 10 OCTOBER 1994 FROM THE CHAIRMAN OF THE FIFTH COMMITTEE TO THE CHAIRMAN OF THE SECOND COMMITTEE

At its third meeting, on 6 October 1994, the Fifth Committee decided to invite the Second, Third and Fourth Committees to review the report of the Secretary-General on the restructuring of the Secretariat (A/49/336), which had been submitted under agenda item 105 "Review of the efficiency of the administrative and financial functioning of the United Nations".

It may be recalled that, during their deliberations at the thirty-fourth session of the Committee for Programme and Coordination, most delegations welcomed the report of the Secretary-General and his initial overall assessment of what had been achieved through the restructuring of the Secretariat, which indicated that restructuring appeared to be leading in the right direction. Some delegations, however, expressed concern about those actions already taken by the Secretary-General that did not have a mandate from Member States, namely, the transfer of the Electoral Assistance Division to the Department of Peace-keeping Operations and the decision of the Secretary-General to request the Administrator of the United Nations Development Programme to assist him in enhancing policy coherence within the United Nations and overall coordination of operational activities for development. They, consequently, expressed the view that those issues should be considered by the relevant intergovernmental bodies. Some delegations, however, expressed the view that the actions already taken by the Secretary-General were within his prerogative as Chief Administrative Officer of the Organization, under article 97 of the Charter of the United Nations.

According to its programme of work, the Fifth Committee is to begin its consideration of item 105 "Review of the efficiency of the administrative and financial functioning of the United Nations" on Monday, 24 October.

I would, therefore, request you to draw the attention of your Committee to the report of the Secretary-General on the restructuring of the Secretariat and arrange that the views of Member States in your Committee are communicated to me not later than Monday, 31 October.

(Signed) Adrien TEIRLINCK
Chairman
Fifth Committee of the
General Assembly

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REPORT OF THE ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL

Review of the arrangements for consultation with non-governmental organizations

Note by the Secretariat

The Open-ended Working Group on the Review of Arrangements for Consultation with Non-Governmental Organizations was established by the Economic and Social Council in accordance with its resolution 1993/80 of 30 July 1993. The Working Group was requested to undertake the general review called for by the Council in its decision 1993/214, with a view to updating, if necessary, Council resolution 1296 (XLIV), as well as introducing coherence in the rules governing the participation of non-governmental organizations in international conferences convened by the United Nations. The Working Group was also requested to include in its review an examination of the ways and means of improving practical arrangements for the work of the Committee on Non-Governmental Organizations and the Non-Governmental Organizations Unit of the Secretariat.

The Working Group held its organizational session on 17 February 1994 and its first session from 20 to 23 June 1994.

The attention of the Second Committee is drawn to the report of the Working Group on its organizational session (E/AC.70/1994/3) and the report of the Working Group on its first session (A/49/215-E/1994/99).

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REPORT OF THE ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL

Question of declaring 1998 international year of the ocean

Note by the Secretariat

1. In its resolution 1994/48 of 29 July 1994, the Economic and Social Council reaffirmed the provisions of resolution 2.5, adopted by the General Conference of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization at its twenty-seventh session (see E/1994/17, annex), and requested the General Assembly at its forty-ninth session to consider proclaiming 1998 international year of the ocean.

2. The question will be considered by the Second Committee under agenda item 12.

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